

EDITORIAL.

PROFESSOR GREENE indulges in some characteristic hypercriticism in connection with the rules for citation adopted by the Madison Botanical Congress and Section G, A. A. A. S. Without finding fault with the rules themselves (for which relief much thanks), he takes a page to pick flaws in the abbreviations used in the examples which are supplied for the convenience of readers in interpreting the rules. Had Professor Greene even taken occasion to read the rules and the reference therein given, he would have seen that the abbreviations of authors' names, journals, etc., to be used in citation have not yet been reported upon by the committee. Criticism of this sort is an expression of querulousness, and degenerates into mere faultfinding, "as any accomplished bibliographer would readily perceive." We may, without offence we hope, remind Mr. Greene that kindness of word and charitable judgment are vastly more effective than the petulance of this criticism or the rancor of his ungentlemanly attack on Mr. Sheldon in the same number of *Erythea*.

* * *

ON THE INSIDE page of the cover of *Grevillea* the following appears as a standing notice: "Specimens of cryptogamic plants will be named for students. The plants must be carefully packed and numbered and postage enclosed for reply." Then follow the names and addresses of those to whom they are to be sent, and the notice concludes thus: "This applies to students only who show by accompanying notes a desire to work. Wholesale batches, sent merely with the object of forming a 'list', will not be countenanced." While none of our editors in this country is perhaps ready to make such an announcement as a personal matter, this notice really contains a hint for American students. It may be taken for granted that those named in connection with the Systematic Botany of North America (see this journal 20: 177. Ap. 1895) stand ready to receive material under the conditions named above and to determine it for correspondents. It certainly ought not to be necessary to send material abroad for determination, which some collectors seem altogether too ready to do. It is not selfishly that we remonstrate against this. The existence of type specimens of American plants in the public herbaria of the United States ought to be assured by having the new plants sent to American students for study. We hope that our collectors will see to it that they do not increase the number of inaccessible foreign types.